

Author Spotlight Luanne Rice

Luanne Rice is the *New York Times* bestselling author who has inspired the devotion of readers everywhere with her moving novels of love and family. She has been hailed by critics for her unique gifts, which have been described as by the *New York Times* Book Review as "a beautiful blend of love and humor, with a little bit of magic thrown in," and by the Denver Post as "a rare combination of realism and romance."

Rice began her writing career in 1985 with her debut novel *Angels All Over Town*. Since then, she has written more than twenty-one novels. Her newest book, *What Matters Most* is due to be published this July. A number of Rice's novels have been adapted for television, including *Crazy in Love* for TNT, *Blue Moon* for CBS, the Hallmark Hall of Fame presentations of *Follow the Stars Home* and *Silver Bells*, and *Beach Girls* as a summer drama series for Lifetime Television.

Rice was born in New Britain, Connecticut, where her father, Thomas, sold typewriters and her mother, Lucille, a writer and artist, taught English. Throughout her childhood, Rice spent winters in New Britain and summers by the Long Island Sound in Old Lyme, where her mother would hold writing workshops for the children. Rice's talent emerged at a very young age, as she published her first poem in the *Hartford Courant* at the age of 11. Her first short story was published in American Girl Magazine when she was 15.

Rice later attended Connecticut College, but dropped out when her father became very ill. At this point, she knew she wanted to be a writer. Instead of returning to college, Rice took on many odd jobs, including working as a cook and maid for an exalted Rhode Island family, as well as fishing on a scallop boat during winter storms. These life experiences not only cultivated the author's love and talent for writing, but shaped the common backdrops in her novels of family and relationships on the Eastern seaboard.

Rice resides in New York City and on the Connecticut shoreline, in the house where she spent her childhood summers.

Novels by Luanne Rice

- Angels All Over Town 1985
- *Crazy in Love* 1988
- *Stone Heart* 1990
- Secrets of Paris 1991
- *Blue Moon* 1993
- *Home Fires* 1995
- *Cloud Nine* 1999
- Follow the Stars Home 2000
- Dream Country 2001
- Firefly Beach 2001
- *Summer Light* 2001
- *Safe Harbor* 2002



- *True Blue -* 2002
- The Perfect Summer 2003
- *The Secret Hour* 2003
- *Beach Girls* 2004
- *Dance With Me -* 2004
- Silver Bells 2004
- Summer of Roses 2005
- Summer's Child 2005
- Sandcastles 2006
- The Edge of Winter 2007

Hubbard's Point / Black Hall Series

- Firefly Beach 2001
- *Safe Harbor* 2002
- *True Blue -* 2002
- The Perfect Summer 2003
- Beach Girls 2004

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